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Mississippi Public Safety Data Laboratory

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SSRC
SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER

MISSISSIPPI STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y ™

MISSISSIPPI
Office of Highway Safety

ississippi
Public Safety
Data Laboratory

A collaborative project between the
Social Science Research Center at Mississippi State
University and the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety
of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety

History & Mission

Goals & Objectives

Programs

The Mississippi Public Safety Data Laboratory (PSDL) was established in 2007 at the Social Science Research Center of Mississippi State University in partnership with the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, with funds from the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration.

The PSDL was created to assist MOHS with the successful execution of its Highway Safety and Performance Plan focused on adopting and implementing programs that enhance the functionality of data-driven strategies as defined by NHTSA. Since data is the underpinning element guiding decision making to direct resources to programs with the most need and greatest impact, the PSDL was specifically designed to leverage operational technology with the ability to perform problem identification and countermeasure analysis.

"In an information age, information is as important as roads, bridges, power grids, and other traditional forms of infrastructure. The PSDL has the important mission of helping develop the information infrastructure that supports public safety in our state."
- Dr. Arthur G. Cosby, William L. Giles Distinguished Professor and Director of the SSRC

The PSDL objectives are threefold: to provide enhanced 1) developmental, 2) technical and 3) analytical support of traffic safety records data. By specifically employing CompStat methodology, the PSDL assists the Mississippi Highway Patrol in transitioning from traditional and outdated policing measures to a more dynamic and integrated law enforcement model driven by fact-based data. CompStat is a service-oriented architecture that embraces data warehousing and cloud computing to yield powerful analytic capabilities. By integrating, storing, displaying, and making a variety of traffic safety records data accessible, CompStat applications permit agencies the critical ability to:

- Obtain accurate, complete, and timely information to identify and rank problem areas;
- Conduct trend analyses to project evaluations towards improving quality of services;
- Develop uniform reporting, mapping, and visualization tools for rapid deployment;
- Share relevant information to identify partners and improve local safety intelligence;
- Create a robust program reporting system to track progress; and
- Interface with the public and organizational stakeholders.

"We have been pleased with our relationship with the PSDL. Through our partnership we have been able to develop tools that aid in allocating resources to accomplish our mission."
- Capt. Randy C. Ginn, District Five Commander of MHP

- Capslock Personnel Management System
- Daily Activity Reporting System
- Electronic Citation System
- Dashboard Visualization System
- J.W. Landrum Observational Survey Laboratory
- Mississippi Alcohol Safety Education Program

From L to R: Alan Burns, Bill Henderson, Mark Allen, Rusty Miley, Tonya Neaves, Robert Hancock, Alicia Falls, Connie Baird-Thomas, Ron Sennett, Ginger Cross, Sara Gallman and Evan Howlett

"The key is information sharing to make the public more aware of the dangers that they may be faced with on a day-to-day basis. It also allows them the resource tools that can assist reaching out to other drivers to reduce crashes, reduce injuries, and save lives."
- Robert Hancock, State Traffic Records Coordinator and Law Enforcement Liaison with MOHS